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051359Z Apr 04

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 03 ANKARA 001984

SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR INR/R/MR, EUR/SE, EUR/PD, NEA/PD, DRL  
JCS PASS J-5/CDR S. WRIGHT

E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: ANKARA MEDIA REACTION REPORT,  
MONDAY, APRIL 5, 2004

THIS REPORT WILL PRESENT A TURKISH PRESS SUMMARY UNDER  
THREE THEMES:

HEADLINES  
BRIEFING  
EDITORIAL OPINION

#### HEADLINES

##### MASS APPEAL

Powell's Islamic Republic of Turkey - Milliyet 4/3  
So we are an 'Islamic Republic' - Sabah 4/3  
Washington corrects Powell's gaffe about 'Islamic state' -  
Hurriyet 4/3  
Powell: US has no B-Plan for Cyprus - Aksam  
Powell: UN Plan Cypriots' last chance - Turkiye  
85 percent of Greek Cypriots against Annan Plan - Milliyet  
Athens pressures Papadopolous -Turkiye  
Shiites put up a bloody resistance - Milliyet

##### OPINION MAKERS

Powell talks nonsense - Cumhuriyet 4/3  
US correction to Powell's 'Islamic republic' remark - Zaman  
4/3  
Karamanlis needs time to convince Greek Cypriots - Zaman 4/3  
EU names Kongra-Gel as terrorists - Radikal 4/3  
Greeks, Greek Cypriots determined to reject UN Plan - Yeni  
Safak  
Powell will work for 'Yes' in referenda - Radikal  
Shiites, Salvadorans clash in Iraq - Radikal  
Occupation forces attack Shiites: 20 killed - Yeni Safak  
Bloody Sunday in Najaf: 24 dead - Cumhuriyet  
Shiites take to the streets: 25 killed - Zaman  
Orphans used as AIDS guinea pigs - Cumhuriyet

#### BRIEFING

Turkish reaction to Secretary Powell remarks: Saturday  
papers write that Secretary Powell made a huge gaffe when he  
said in an interview with German ZDF-TV that Iraq would  
become an Islamic republic 'like Turkey and Pakistan.'  
Dailies criticize Powell for his 'ignorance,' and note that  
the Secretary's remarks disturbed Ankara. US Ambassador  
Eric Edelman said that the remarks had been misunderstood.  
'Turkey is a secular, democratic republic, and there is no  
change in the US view,' Edelman said. 'Powell's scandalous  
remarks are corrected by the US State Department,' read  
Saturday's headline in "Hurriyet." A State Department  
official told "Hurriyet" that the Secretary was simply  
highlighting the fact that Turkey's population is  
overwhelmingly Muslim, and that Turkey is a democracy with a  
republican form of government. Aegean Army Commander  
General Hursit Tolon said that Turkey's ally must learn the  
basic characteristics of the Republic of Turkey.

Cyprus: The Council of ministers and the National Security  
Council (NSC) will discuss the UN-backed peace plan for  
Cyprus in an NSC meeting on Monday. The issue will then be  
taken up at a special session in parliament on Tuesday. The  
government wants the parliament to pass the guarantees  
demanded by the UN before the April 7 deadline. The  
military might voice opposition to some aspects of the Annan  
Plan. The military is also concerned about the weakening of  
ties between Ankara and Denktas. The commanders are worried  
that Turkish derogations would not become part of EU primary  
law. The accommodation and rehabilitation of over 50,000  
TRNC nationals to be displaced will also be discussed at the  
NSC. 'TRNC Prime Minister' Talat said that \$2-4 billion

would be needed to resettle the displaced. Meanwhile, papers report that a large majority -- 84.7 percent -- of Greek Cypriots oppose the UN-backed peace plan for the reunification of Cyprus. The Turkish Cypriots currently support acceptance of the plan, but by a very narrow margin -- 51.2 percent to 48.7 percent. Foreign Minister Gul said he would launch a world campaign for the international recognition of the 'TRNC' if Greek Cypriots reject the Annan Plan. Secretary Powell said yesterday that there is no 'B-plan' for Cyprus, and that the process will come to a halt if the sides cannot agree.

Kongra-Gel on EU terror list: Kongra-Gel and KADEK, successor organizations to the PKK, have been added to the EU list of terrorist organizations together with DHKP-C and IBDA-C. Until recently, the EU had not taken into account Ankara's concerns about Kongra-Gel and KADEK. The Europeans became more sensitive on the issue following the Madrid bombings.

DEP trial: The Ankara State Security Court (SSC) rejected requests for the release of former DEP lawmakers Leyla Zana, Hatip Dicle, Orhan Dogan and Selim Sadak at the 13th hearing in the defendants' retrial on Friday. The case was postponed until April 21. European Parliament Co-Chairman Joost Lagendijk said after the hearing that if the Kurdish lawmakers are convicted for a second time, Turkey's EU adjustment laws would be reexamined. The defendants boycotted the hearing on Friday as a protest against the legal process.

#### EDITORIAL OPINION: Cyprus

##### "The US Works for a Yes"

Yasemin Congar wrote in the mass appeal Milliyet (4/5): "The Bush administration is very pleased with the Turkish government's performance during the Cyprus talks. A source in the White House noted that some Congressional circles that previously criticized Turkey for its position on Cyprus have been pleasantly surprised by Ankara's approach. . Washington is now focusing on the performances of both Ankara and Athens with regard to the outcome of the upcoming referenda. However, Turkey's positive approach has already been noted in Washington. US officials have intensified their efforts to persuade all four sides on the importance of a 'yes' from the referenda. The US believes that the current Cyprus agreement is the best of what could have been achieved. . Washington warns that there could be negative consequences for the Greek Cypriot side in the event of a 'no' vote in the south. But Washington is making no commitment to provide official recognition to the Turkish Cypriot side in the event that the referendum is approved in the north. However, Washington does not conceal its intention to provide certain privileges to the Turkish Cypriot side if there is such a result."

##### "Cyprus: To Be or Not to Be"

Erol Manisali argued in the social democrat-intellectual Cumhuriyet (4/5): "Thanks to the Annan Plan, for the first time in history both Greece and the Greek Cypriots have been given all the advantages to exert full hegemony on island of Cyprus. Simitis and Karamanlis used to express their goal to turn Cyprus into a Hellenic island, and it seems that this goal is about to be realized. Right after the implementation of Annan Plan, we will see a political invasion of the island by Greece (i.e., the EU). The occupation of Iraq has been achieved through weapons. However, the occupation of Cyprus is about to be carried out through the Annan Plan."

##### "Plan B"

Asli Aydinbas wrote from Washington in the mass appeal Sabah: "The Greek Cypriots are well aware of the consequences of saying 'no' in the referendum. They appear to be ready to face those consequences. IN recent weeks, the Greek lobby has exerted great efforts in the US Congress against the Annan plan, and has dismissed possible negative fallout from the referendum. Turkey needs to develop a strategy for the post-referendum period. A high level Greek official told me in New York that there is not enough time for a solution, but that the Annan process could be restarted in September, in advance of the EU decision on Turkey. Both Greece and the Greek-Cypriots prefer this kind of postponement, because they believe that they can take more land in a second round of talks. The Greek Cypriots also believe that after all these years, living together may not be very pleasant for Turks and Greeks. Some are urging the government to forget about the Annan plan, and to try to get more land from the Turks before they become an independent state. It is a rather interesting thought. The

Greek Cypriots have yet to make a concrete decision on the issue, but Ankara needs to start thinking about a `plan B' before it's too late."

EDELMAN